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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q63734

Johji TAJIMA

Appln. No.: 09/820,376 ✓

Group Art Unit: 2621

Confirmation No.: 5691

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: March 27, 2001 ✓

For: FACE RECOGNITION METHOD, RECORDING MEDIUM THEREOF AND FACE
☐ RECOGNITION DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAR 18 2004

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H09-305771, published November 28, 1997.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H09-259271, published October 3, 1997.
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H04-101280, published April 2, 1992.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
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4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H06-168317, published June 14, 1994.
5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H08-050660, published February 20, 1996.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

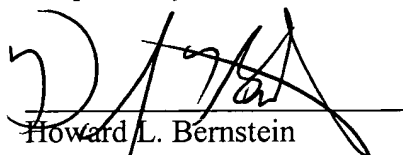
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses here with a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated December 17, 2003 and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appl. No.: 09/820,376

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H09-305771
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H09-259271
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H04-101280

<Regarding claims 1 through 16>

Comparing the invention relating to claim 1 of the present application to publication 1, the two correspond in the point that three-dimensional human facial data is generated and stored, and at the time of comparison, facial image data is generated based on the image capture conditions and three-dimensional facial data, so the invention relating to claim 1 of the present application could be easily accomplished by a person skilled in the art familiar with publication 1.

Claims 3, 5, 7, 9 through 10, 12, and 14 through 16 cannot be patented for the same reason.

Furthermore, storing facial images in a database is a commonly practiced matter, so the same holds for claims 2, 6, 8, 11 and 13.

(If necessary, see publication 2)

Moreover, when comparing two-dimensional facial images, performing the comparison after normalizing the position, size and luminosity is a common practice, so the same holds for claim 4.

(See publication 3, figure 4, etc.)

Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results

- Fields searched IPC 7th Edition G06T 7/00
G06T 1/00

DB name JICST

- Prior art literature
 - Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H06-168317
 - Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H08-050660

This Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection.